BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY
OF THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE POLICY DIRECTIVE 10-25

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Operations

*AIR FORCE EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM*

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Disaster Relief, 26 July 2012; DoDI 6200.03, *Public Health Emergency Management Within the DoD,* 5 March 2010; DoDD S-3710.01, (U) National Leadership Command Capability (NLCC), May 27, 2015; Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 10-2, *Readiness,* 6 November 2012; AFPD 10-8, *Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA)*, 4 June 2018; DoDD 3025.18; AFPD 10-26, *Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Enterprise,* 17 June 2015; Headquarters Air Force Mission Directive (HAFMD) 1-38, *Deputy Chief of Staff, Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection*, 1 April 2015 and AFPD 10-24, *Air Force Critical Infrastructure Program (CIP),* 28 April 2006. This Air Force directive applies to Regular Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard units.

This directive establishes the Air Force Emergency Management (EM) Program and its responsibilities, procedures, and standards for organizing, training, and equipping forces to prevent, protect, prepare for, mitigate, respond to, and recover from all-hazards threats in order to conduct and sustain combat operations. Threats include, but are not limited to, any man-made or natural disaster, major accident or incident; or any adversarial action, including the acquisition and employment of WMD by a hostile state or non-state actor, including violent extremist organizations and their affiliates. The Air Force EM Program focuses on maintaining and restoring full-spectrum readiness and mission capability as a way of assuring mission continuation and resiliency.

Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to AF/A4CX, Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR), 1260 Air Force Pentagon (4C1057), Washington, D.C. 20330-1260 or **usaf.pentagon.af-a4.mbx.a4cx-workflow@mail.mil** using the AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route AF Forms 847 from the field through appropriate functional's chain of command. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with Air Force Records Information Management System, and Records Disposition Schedule.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This publication has been substantially revised. This rewrite of Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 10-25 consolidates and clarifies organizational roles and responsibilities; and updates terminology consistent with doctrine. The publication also incorporates the principles of the Ability to Survive and Operate.

1. Background.

1.1. The President of the United States (U.S.) laid out a strategic vision in the 2018 National Security Strategy for protecting the American people and preserving our way of life, promoting our prosperity, preserving peace through strength, and advancing American influence in the world. The strategy outlines that, as part of defending the homeland, we must prevent chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) attacks, protect our critical infrastructure, and deter, disrupt, and defeat potential threats before they reach the United States. We must take deliberate steps to respond quickly to meet the needs of the American people in the event of natural disaster or attack on our homeland. We must also build a culture of preparedness and resilience across our governmental functions, critical infrastructure, and economic and political systems.

1.2. China and Russia, the rogue states of North Korea and Iran, and transnational threat organizations, particularly jihadist terrorist groups, actively compete against the United States and our allies and partners. State and non-state actors place the safety of the American people at risk by exploiting vulnerabilities across the land, air, maritime, space, and cyberspace domains. Adversaries constantly evolve their methods to threaten the United States and our citizens. We must be agile and adaptable. The danger from hostile state and non-state actors who are trying to acquire and employ CBRN weapons is increasing.

1.3. The United States must retain a ready force that is capable of protecting the homeland while defending U.S. interests. This requires a resilient forward posture and agile global mobility forces. As a part of the Joint Force, the Air Force must remain capable of doing its part in deterring and defeating the full range of threats to the United States. The Air Force must develop new operational concepts and capabilities to win without assured dominance in air, maritime, land, space, and cyberspace domains, including against those operating below the level of conventional military conflict.

2. Overview.

2.1. The primary mission of the Air Force Emergency Management (EM) Program is to prevent, protect, prepare for, mitigate, respond to and recover from all threats and hazards affecting the Air Force worldwide. The ancillary missions of the Air Force EM Program are to support homeland defense and civil support operations and provide support to civil and host nation authorities; antiterrorism programs and the countering weapons of mass destruction enterprise.

2.2. The establishment and maintenance of a comprehensive, all-hazards Air Force EM Program will ensure full-spectrum readiness and sustain Mission Assurance. Mission Assurance and resiliency of Air Force personnel and resources is essential to enabling the Ability to Survive and Operate. The ability to survive and operate is defined as the ability for Airmen and units to conduct and sustain operations while simultaneously responding to or recovering from deliberate, accidental, or naturally occurring events that impede air, space, or cyberspace operations.

2.3. Air Force emergency managers manage non-medical defense and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) response in accordance with the roles and responsibilities outlined in the Air Force EM Program. That program is shaped by instructions in DoDI 6055.17; DoDI 3020.52; Joint Publication 3-11; *Operations in Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear* (CBRN) *Environments*, 4 October 2013; Joint Publication 3-41, *Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Response,* 9 September 2016 and Headquarters Air Force Mission Directive 1-38.

2.4. The Air Force supports federal emergency preparedness and incident management programs consistent with military operations. Air Force EM policies, guidance and procedures focus on operational requirements and incorporate them according to federal statutes, DoD guidance and host-nation agreements. Air Force organizations coordinate emergency management requirements and capabilities with federal, state, local, and tribal governments; other U.S. and foreign military organizations, combatant commanders, chiefs of mission, host-nation partners, and international and non-governmental organizations. These Air Force coordination efforts utilize an all-hazards approach, in conjunction with a risk management process as outlined in DoDI 6055.17.

2.5. The Air Force will integrate intelligence, law enforcement, and emergency management operations to ensure that warfighters have the right information and capabilities to respond to WMD threats from state and non-state actors.

3. Air Force Emergency Management (EM) Program Policy. It is Air Force's policy to establish and maintain an Air Force EM Program that utilizes a comprehensive all-hazard approach as a means of sustaining mission assurance, enhancing maintenance operations and restoring combat readiness. The Air Force EM Program will:

3.1. Plan, program, and budget for emergency management, Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) defense, and CBRN response requirements regarding training, exercises, evaluations, manpower, and equipment in accordance with DoDI 6055.17 and DoDD 5160.05E.

3.2. Incorporate emergency management concepts into appropriate Joint and Air Force concepts of operations, concepts of employment as well as Ability to Survive and Operate (ATSO) training, education, certification, and credentialing courses.

3.3. Integrate measurable operational standards for determining the requirements for equipment, training, manpower, ancillary resources, and installation performance criteria to conduct and sustain emergency management for combat operations.

3.4. Conduct ATSO or natural disaster exercises and evaluations including CBRN threat-based assessments for recovery, restoration and sustainment of mission capability.

3.5. Develop reporting and notification capabilities satisfying applicable federal, DoD, Joint Staff, Combatant Commands, Host-Nation and Air Force requirements.

3.6. Align with Presidential Policy Directive 8, *National Preparedness*, Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5, *Management of Domestic Incidents*; DoDI 6055.17, and as appropriate, implement the National Planning Frameworks and applicable federal and DoD guidance for all-hazards incident management of emergencies. The Air Force EM Program will also align DoD CBRN preparedness activities for prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery in accordance with DoDI 6055.17.

3.7. Air Force emergency managers manage non-medical CBRN defense and CBRN response in accordance with the roles and responsibilities outlined in the Air Force EM Program as instructed in DoDI 6055.17, DoDI 3020.52, Joint Publication 3-11, Joint Publication 3-41, *Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Response*, and Headquarters Air Force Mission Directive (HAFMD) 1-38.

3.8. The Air Force supports federal emergency preparedness and incident management programs consistent with military operations. Air Force EM policies, guidance and procedures focus on operational requirements and incorporate them according to federal statutes, DoD guidance and host-nation agreements. Air Force organizations coordinate emergency management requirements and capabilities with federal, state, local, and tribal governments; other U.S. and foreign military organizations, Combatant Commanders, Chiefs of Mission, host-nation partners, and international and non-governmental organizations utilizing an all-hazards approach in conjunction with a risk management process as outlined in DoDI 6055.17, Department of Defense Emergency Management Program.

3.9. The Air Force will integrate intelligence, law enforcement, and emergency management operations to ensure that warfighters have the right information and capabilities to respond to WMD threats from state and non-state actors. The United States will improve its ability to assess the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risks to Americans and will prioritize resources based on the highest risks.

3.10. Air Force organizations will use the Air Force Incident Management System to conduct incident management, encompassing the following phases: prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery in accordance with the *National Incident Management System* (NIMS), and expanded upon in, Air Force Instruction (AFI) 10-2501, *Air Force Emergency Management (EM) Program* and Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 10-2502, *Air Force Incident Management System (AFIMS) Standards and Procedures*.

4. **Roles and Responsibilities.**

   4.1. **Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services (AF/A1) will:**

   4.1.1. Develop policy and provide guidance for incident response to recover human remains (to include those remains contaminated by Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) materials and associated personal effects and coordinate storage and handling procedures.

   4.1.2. Serve as the focal point for victim and family assistance services for all emergency management activities.

   4.1.3. Provide guidance for installation shelter-stocking activities.

   4.2. **Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (AF/A2) will:**

   4.2.1. Develop policy and provide guidance for planning, programming, training and budgeting resources necessary to ensure Air Force Emergency Management (EM) Program capabilities.

4.2.2. Utilize intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities to collect, analyze, produce and disseminate all-source intelligence information. That information is critical to prevent, protect, prepare for, respond to, recover from and mitigate the direct and indirect consequences of adversary attacks or terrorist incidents including employment of conventional weapons and CBRN capabilities.

4.3. **Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (AF/A3) will:**

4.3.1. Oversee the development, coordination, and implementation of Homeland Defense, and defense support of civil authorities, policy and operational standards, as outlined in AFPD 10-8.

4.3.2. Continually assess combat readiness in all-hazards threat environments (to include CBRN contaminated environments) in accordance with AFPD 10-2, *Readiness*. Training, exercise evaluation, and inspection assessments are critical and will be used for readiness assessments.

4.3.3. Provide functional expertise to ensure synergy among the various components of the Air Force EM Program.

4.3.4. The Director of Current Operations (AF/A3O) will: Coordinate and integrate Air Force Critical Asset Risk Management Program guidance, procedures and capabilities with the Air Force EM Program as outlined in AFPD 10-24, *Air Force Critical Infrastructure Program (CIP)*

4.4. **Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection (AF/A4), will oversee:**

4.4.1. The Director of Logistics (AF/A4L), under the authority, direction, and control of the AF/A4, will provide subject matter expertise from all applicable logistics functional areas in the development of emergency management policy, guidance, and oversight.

4.4.2. The Director of Civil Engineering (AF/A4C), under the authority, direction, and control of the AF/A4, will:

4.4.2.1. Serve as the Air Force EM Program manager or coordinator. Develop and synchronize emergency management policy with Headquarters Air Force, Joint Staff and Department of Defense guidance and governance.

4.4.2.2. Plan, program, and budget for emergency management requirements and provide management support, resources, and staff to implement and assess compliance of emergency management programs effectively at all organizational levels.

4.4.2.3. Develop policy and provide guidance for incident management and Air Force EM Program integration with homeland defense, civil support, Mission Assurance (MA), integrated defense, critical infrastructure, continuity of operations, antiterrorism, emergency preparedness, and support to international CBRN accidents and incidents.

4.4.2.4. Oversee planning, programming, budgeting and execution of sustainment resources. These activities are part of the effort to organize, train and equip all forces to conduct EM Program actions. Actions include non-medical CBRN defense and CBRN response operations and activities. These operations and activities should be done consistently with defense acquisition processes, Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System, and the Joint Staff/J-8 Joint Requirements Office for CBRN defense in support of the Air Force EM Program.

4.4.2.5. Represent the Air Force in the development of the Program Objective Memorandum for the Chemical and Biological Defense Program and sustainment and modernization efforts for CBRN defense equipment. Execute activities in support of DoDD 5160.05E, as delegated by AF/A10 in accordance with AFPD 10-26.

4.4.2.6. Organize, plan, train, and equip forces to conduct and support operations under the auspice of full-spectrum readiness to include CBRN defense and CBRN response. Provide functional expertise to support CBRN defense and CBRN response operational requirements as outlined in AFPD 10-26.

4.4.2.7. Support the establishment of and maintain defense crisis management capabilities in support of DoD and component defense crisis management requirements.

4.4.2.8. Provide designated Air Force representation to the Nuclear Weapons Accident Incident Response Subcommittee and validate Defense Threat Reduction Agency led Air Force exercise and training requirements.

4.4.2.9. Provide designated Air Force representation to the Nuclear Weapons Accident Incident Exercise program, which is a full-scale exercise of DoD CBRN response capabilities to respond to a U.S. nuclear weapon incident in accordance with DoDI 3150.10, *DoD Response to U.S. Nuclear Weapon Incidents*.

4.4.2.10. Organize, train, and equip response task forces to support necessary actions in response to a U.S. nuclear weapon incident that occurs while in the Air Force's custody or when directed by the Secretary of Defense through Air Force Global Strike Command and U.S. Air Forces Europe (USAFE).

4.4.2.11. Assist the Joint Staff in the development and maintenance of joint mission-essential task lists for the nuclear and radiological incident response forces.

4.4.2.12. Develop Air Force EM exercise requirements and evaluation criteria for inspection guidance.

4.4.2.13. Develop and provide Air Force EM ancillary training to military and civilian personnel, dependents, and contractors.

4.4.2.14. Provide designated Air Force representation to the DoD Emergency Management Steering Group in accordance with DoDI 6055.17.

4.4.2.15. Establish an Air Force Emergency Management Working Group Charter, which shall primarily support four corporate governance structures: DoD Emergency Management Steering Group; Air Force Security Enterprise and MA; Agile Combat Support; and the Air Force Civil Engineer. EM Working Group will also guide program implementation across the AF.

4.4.2.16. Provide designated Air Force representation to the DoD Public Safety Communications Working Group Executive Committee, chaired by the DoD Deputy Chief Information Officer for Command, Control, Communications, and Computers and Information Infrastructure Capabilities.

4.4.2.17. Provide functional emergency management expertise to support operational analysis, equipment, accession training, professional military education, training, exercises, science and technology, modeling and simulation, research, development, and acquisition.

4.4.2.18. Provide functional expertise to support the development of DoD, Joint Service and international standards and doctrine to include North Atlantic Treaty Organizations (NATO) Standardization Agreements (STANAGS) for emergency management, CBRN defense and CBRN response.

4.4.2.19. Oversee execution of emergency management requirements in host nations in accordance with status of forces agreements, Department of State and Combatant Commander guidance, and applicable host nation standards. Ensure that Installation EM Programs in host nations have clear guidance regarding how Air Force EM Program capabilities could support foreign CBRN response, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations.

4.4.3. The Director of Security Forces (AF/A4S), under the authority, direction, and control of the AF/A4, will: Align antiterrorism, law enforcement, integrated defense policy and operational standards with the Air Force EM Program.

4.5. **Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategy, Integration, and Requirements (AF/A5) will:** ensure Air Force EM Program capabilities, equities, doctrine, policy, guidance, and instructions are considered in the development of operational strategies, concepts, and requirements (i.e. capabilities-based planning, capability requirements development, strategic planning direction, capability and modification prioritization, defense planning scenarios, and experimentation).

4.6. **Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Programs (AF/A8) will:** ensure Air Force EM Program capabilities, equities, doctrine, policies, guidance, and instructions are considered in overarching planning and programming efforts (i.e., war plans, institutionalized long-range strategic planning, modernization planning processes, future concepts, strategic assessments, and Air Force Program Objective submissions).

4.7. **Deputy Chief of Staff for Studies and Analyses, Assessments and Lessons Learned (AF/A9) will:** ensure Air Force analysis, assessment and lessons learned applicability for plans; programs; operational concepts; education; training; and exercises at all Air Force levels.

4.8. **Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration Office (AF/A10) will:**

4.8.1. Coordinate nuclear surety policy that supports response to nuclear incidents and accidents in accordance with AFPD 13-5, *Air Force Nuclear Mission*.

4.8.2. Coordinate on the development of countering weapons of mass destruction policy in accordance with AFPD 10-26.

4.9. **The Air Force Surgeon General (AF/SG) will:**

4.9.1. Develop policies to address medical aspects of the Air Force EM Program.

4.9.2. Incorporate emergency management considerations into medical plans, programs, requirements and budgets.

4.9.3. Provide medical expertise to support the development of Air Force policies and procedures and associated medical response capabilities for the Air Force EM Program.

4.9.4. Provide public health and medical consultation for all public health, veterinary and medical issues pertaining to the EM program, per DoDI 6055.17, para 2.11.f.

4.9.5. Oversee medical aspects of emergency management.

4.9.6. Provide functional expertise to integrate medical response capabilities into the Air Force EM Program. Also, ensure medical forces are properly organized, trained and equipped to support emergency management. This support will include support of health risk assessment activities and patient treatment

4.9.7. Organize, train and equip general purpose and specialized medical forces to support emergency management CBRN defense outlined in AFPD 48-1, *Aerospace Medicine Enterprise*.

4.10. **The Chief Information Officer (SAF/CIO A6) will:** Plan, program and budget for an operationally resilient, reliable, interoperable and secure communications infrastructure. This network-centric infrastructure will meet the needs of the Air Force.

4.11. **The Inspector General (SAF/IG) will:**

4.11.1. Develop guidance for Air Force EM Program exercises and evaluations modeled after the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program and according to DoDI 6055.17.

4.11.2. Review inspection criteria developed from all functional areas to assess unit emergency response and recovery capabilities compatible with inspection policy.

4.12. **Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition (SAF/AQ) will:** Pursue technologies to support emergency management and incorporate emergency management requirements into research, development and acquisition programs.

4.13. **Headquarters, Air Force Materiel Command will:** pursue technologies to support emergency management and incorporate emergency management requirements into research, development and acquisition programs.

4.14. **Major Commands (MAJCOM) through Air Force Installation & Mission Support Center (AFIMSC) Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve Command will:**

4.14.1. Develop plans, policy implementation guidance, procedures and budgets for resources to conduct the Air Force EM Program consistent with unit mission and the all-hazard threat environment.

4.14.2. Integrate emergency management training and exercise requirements in relevant operational plans and orders to validate consistency with the established guidance.

HEATHER A. WILSON
Secretary of the Air Force

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

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JP 3-11, *Operations in a CBRN Environment,* 4 October 2013

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Presidential Policy Directive-8, *National Preparedness*, 30 March 2011

Adopted Form

Air Force Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFI—Air Force Instruction

AFIMS—Air Force Incident Management System

AFIMSC—Air Force Installation & Mission Support Center

AFMAN—Air Force Manual

AFMC—Air Force Materiel Command

AFPD—Air Force Policy Directive

AT—Antiterrorism

ATSO—Ability to Survive and Operate

CBRN—Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear

CIP—Critical Infrastructure Program

DoD—Department of Defense

DoDD—Department of Defense Directive

DoDI—DoD Instruction

EM—Emergency Management

HAFMD—Headquarters Air Force Mission Directive

JP—Joint Publication

MA—Mission Assurance

MAJCOM—Major Commands

NATO—North Atlantic Treaty Organizations

NIMS—National Incident Management System

STANAGS—Standardization Agreements

U.S.—United States

WMD—Weapons of Mass Destruction

Terms

Ability to Survive and Operate (ATSO)—The ability for individual Airmen and units to conduct and sustain operations while simultaneously responding to or recovering from deliberate, accidental, or naturally occurring events that impede air, space, or cyberspace operations.

Air Force Emergency Management Program—The single, integrated Air Force program to coordinate and organize efforts to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate incidents and emergencies using an all-hazards approach.

Air Force Incident Management System (AFIMS)—A methodology designed to incorporate the requirements of Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 requirements of the expeditionary Air Force. The System provides the Air Force with an incident management system that is consistent with the single, comprehensive approach to domestic incident management. The System provides the Air Force with the coordinating structures, processes and protocols required to integrate its specific authorities into the collective framework of federal departments and agencies. This integration will support actions to include mitigation, prevention, protection, response and recovery activities. The System includes a core set of concepts, principles, terminology, and technologies covering the incident command system, emergency operations centers, incident command, training, identification and management of resources, qualification and certification, and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources. The System's current methodology is incorporated into current operating practices through revised instructions and manuals, training products, and exercise and evaluation tools.

All-Hazards Approach—A methodology to develop emergency management strategies for all different types of potential incidents. "All-hazards" include any incident, natural or manmade that warrants action to protect the life, property, health, and safety of military members, dependents, and civilians at risk, and minimize any disruptions of installation operations.

Antiterrorism—Defensive measures used to reduce the vulnerability of individuals and property to terrorist acts, to include limited response and containment by local military and civilian forces. See also Department of Defense Instruction O-200.16, DoD Antiterrorism (AT) Standards, 17 November 2016.

Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN)—Operations that include chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear, either individually or in combination. Collectively known as weapons of mass destruction. Toxic Industrial Chemicals/Toxic Industrial Materials are considered chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear materials.

Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Incident—An emergency resulting from the deliberate or unintentional release of nuclear, biological, radiological, or toxic or poisonous chemical materials.

Homeland Defense—The protection of United States sovereignty, territory, domestic population, and critical defense infrastructure against external threats and aggression or other threats as directed by the President.

Host Nation—A nation that receives the forces or supplies of allied nations, coalition partners, or NATO organizations to be located on, to operate in, or to transit through its territory.

Incident—An occurrence or event, natural or human caused, that requires an emergency response to protect life or property. Incidents for example, can include major disasters, emergencies, terrorist attacks, terrorist threats, wildland and urban fires, floods, hazardous materials spills, nuclear accidents, aircraft accidents, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tropical storms, war-related disasters, public health and medical emergencies, and other occurrences requiring an emergency response.

Mission Assurance (MA)—A process to protect or ensure the continued function and resilience of capabilities and assets, including personnel, equipment, facilities, networks, information and information systems, infrastructure, and supply chains, critical to the execution of mission-essential functions in any operating environment or condition.

Mission Assurance (MA) Assessment—Assessment of the discipline under the MA umbrella (antiterrorism; defense critical infrastructure; critical asset risk management; CBRN preparedness; CBRN survivability; emergency management; cybersecurity; explosives safety; physical security; continuity of operations, force health protection) to identify vulnerabilities and gaps that could prevent accomplishment of a unit, installation, or higher authority mission.

Mitigation—Activities designed to reduce or eliminate risks to persons or property or to lessen the actual or potential effects or consequences of an incident. Mitigation measures may be implemented prior to, during, or after an incident. Mitigation measures are often developed in accordance with lessons learned from prior incidents. Mitigation involves ongoing actions to reduce exposure to, probability of, or potential loss from hazards. Measures may include zoning and building codes, flood plain buyouts, and analysis of hazard-related data to determine where it is safe to build or locate temporary facilities. Mitigation can include efforts to educate governments, businesses, and the public on measures they can take to reduce loss and injury.

National Incident Management System (NIMS)—A set of principles that provides a systematic, proactive approach guiding government agencies at all levels, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector. This system is intended to work seamlessly to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate the effects of domestic incidents. These efforts are planned and executed regardless of the cause, size, location or complexity of the incident and are intended to reduce the loss of life or property and harm to the environment.

Preparedness—The range of deliberate, critical tasks and activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the operational capability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents. Preparedness is a continuous process involving efforts at all levels of government and between government and private sector and non-governmental organizations to identify threats, determine vulnerabilities, and identify required resources.

Prevention—Actions to avoid an incident or to intervene to stop an incident from occurring. Prevention involves actions to protect lives and property. It involves applying intelligence and other information to a range of activities that may include such countermeasures as deterrence operations; heightened inspections; improved surveillance and security operations; investigations to determine the full nature and source of the threat; public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation or quarantine; and, as appropriate, specific law enforcement operations aimed at deterring, preempting, interdicting or disrupting illegal activity and apprehending potential perpetrators and bringing them to justice.

Recovery—The development, coordination, and execution of service- and site-restoration plans for impacted communities and the reconstitution of government operations and services through individual, private sector, nongovernmental, and public assistance programs that: identify needs and define resources; provide housing and promote restoration; address long-term care and treatment of affected persons; implement additional measures for community restoration; incorporate mitigation measures and techniques, as feasible; evaluate the incident to identify lessons learned; and develop initiatives to mitigate the effects of future incidents.

Response—Activities that address the short-term, direct effects of an incident. Response includes immediate actions to save lives, protect property, and meet basic human needs. Response also includes the execution of emergency operations plans and of incident mitigation activities designed to limit the loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and other unfavorable outcomes. As indicated by the situation, response activities include: applying intelligence and other information to lessen the effects or consequences of an incident; increased security operations; continuing investigations into the nature and source of the threat; ongoing public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation or quarantine; and specific law enforcement operations aimed at preempting, interdicting or disrupting illegal activity and apprehending actual perpetrators and bringing them to justice.

Risk Management—A continual process or cycle where risks are identified, measured, and evaluated; countermeasures are designed, implemented, and monitored to see how they perform, with a continual feedback loop for decision-maker input to improve countermeasures and consider trade-offs between risk acceptance and risk avoidance.